Qualifications of Police Officers testing the Competency of Motor Inspectors.

372. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to the answer given to part (*a*) of question No. 16 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1925, *viz.*, "a person not previously licensed to drive a motor vehicle, on applying for such a license, is tested in regard to his competency to control a motor vehicle either by a District Superintendent of Police or by an Assistant Superintendent of Police," will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) what the test is and how the driver is tested;

(ii) whether all the District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Police themselves know how to drive a motor vehicle, and possess driving licenses, and if so, the names of those who possess such licenses with the respective dates on which they obtained such licenses, and of those who do not themselves know driving and yet have tested the competency of persons applying for driving licenses and have issued such licenses;

(iii) the person who tested the competency of these District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents before issuing driving licenses to them; and

(iv) the date on which the Commissioner of Police obtained his driving license?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (i) The test is one of ability to drive a motor vehicle with safety. It is conducted by practical examination.

(ii) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. It is not necessary for an examiner to be able to drive a motor vehicle to enable him to decide whether a person is capable of driving with due regard to the safety of the public.

(iii) The question does not arise.

(iv) Mr. W. H. Pitt first obtained a driving license in the year 1915. It was renewed for the current year on the 6th Karkatakam, 1100.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to part (i), will the Member be pleased to say what the nature of the practical examination is, so that I may have an idea of it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The man is asked to drive a motor vehicle and it is seen whether he drives it properly.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to part (iii), may I know whether a knowledge of driving is not essential for testing driving?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that it is at all necessary. I can myself say whether a man is driving properly or not without being able to drive a car.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know from the Member whether there is any D. S. P. or A. S. P. who knows driving?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I must make an enquiry in regard to that matter.

MR. S. PERAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): That is the main question itself.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): It has also been stated in answer to the first part of the question that the answer is in the negative.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Subsequently I asked whether there is any D. S. P. or A. S. P. who knows driving.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): That is why I replied that an enquiry will have to be made.

Corruption among Government Officers.

373. **MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): With reference to the answer given to my question No. 23 [56] asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 3rd November 1925, will the Government be pleased to state whether they have any scheme in hand for allaying public uneasiness about misdeeds and corruption on the part of Government Officers and the reasons why the suggestion of associating some representatives of the people in enquiries regarding serious complaints by the Members of the public against Government officers does not commend itself to the Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no schemes but investigate each case and decide it on its merits. In regard to the latter part of the question, their reasons are based on grounds of general principle and practical expediency.

MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know whether the Government did not consider it desirable to have some general scheme for allaying public uneasiness about misdeeds and corruption on the part of Government officers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have stated their view on the matter in the answer. The present supplementary question is too large a question for me to answer on the spur of the moment.

Omission to mention Nair Officers in the Dewan's Address to the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

374. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state how it happened that Nair officers of high position appointed within the last twelve months failed to find mention in the Dewan's address to the twenty-second session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly while non-Nair officers of corresponding position appointed within the same period were mentioned in terms of appreciation and praise?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The names of officers mentioned in paragraph 3 of the Dewan's address were not intended to be a full catalogue.

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